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CONFIDENTIAL
SECRET

12 APR 1963

DOS 12 REV DATE 24/03/80 BY 018995
ORIG CLASS 09 PAGES 38 TYPE 02
CLASS S REVIEW 07 REV CLASS C
JUST 22 NEXT REV 2010 AUTH: HR 70-2

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Meeting with Deputy Director (Support) - Far East Field Trip Notes

1. At the request of the Deputy Director (Support), a meeting was held in the Comptroller Conference Room on 11 April 1963 to discuss subject. Present were the Deputy Director (Support), Comptroller, Deputy Comptroller, Chief, Finance Division, and Chief, Technical Accounting Staff. The specific subjects raised by the Deputy Director (Support) are commented on briefly below:

a. The Deputy Director (Support) stated that in several places the Station Finance Officers and Chiefs of Support expressed the view that Finance Officers should have more training in respect to budgetary matters relating to field stations than they have been provided heretofore. He stated that the station personnel felt that the [redacted] course" is too theoretical for practical help at stations and that the training of Finance Officers should be adapted to requirements relating to budget data required of field stations. He could not recall the specific individuals, other than [redacted] with whom this matter was discussed but indicated that the question had come up at several stations. It was the consensus of those present that the particular training necessary for field Finance Officers relating to budget should be designed based upon the types of requests for providing budgetary data which are being generated to the field stations by the area divisions and that this general subject should be discussed with the Chief, [redacted] to ascertain his views on the type of training which should be provided.

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b. The Deputy Director (Support) raised a question concerning the authority to use indirect route travel when dependents travel without the employees accompanying them. He suggested that the Agency might be subject to some criticism if such indirect travel costs the Agency more than the cost of direct route travel; however, he felt that if it did not cost the Agency more he would not be in favor of changing the present regulations in connection with the matter. Inasmuch as the Agency pays either the actual cost of travel or the cost of direct route travel, whichever is less, when travel is performed on an indirect route basis by dependents, with or without the employees accompanying them, it would appear that no action need be taken relative to this matter.

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c. The Deputy Director (Support) raised a question concerning the extent to which Agency [redacted] require the use of less than first-class travel between overseas locations. He indicated that there seems to be a general practice of travel by first-class jet between overseas locations even in travel situations where short trips are involved, such as one to three hours. He felt that some effort should be made to strengthen the regulatory requirements concerning the use of less than first-class travel whenever this will meet the traveler's requirements. He suggested further that for some Trans-Pacific flights where the flight is broken enroute one or more times, the use of less than first-class flight would appear justified, and cited the example of a family which traveled to the West Coast, had a break in travel, then proceeded to Hawaii where another break occurred, and then on to the Far East. In this case where there was only one flight of more than five hours, and that extended for only seven hours, he felt that travel by less than first-class might well be justified. The Deputy Director (Support) stated that a study showing the relative dollar savings which could be accomplished by a greater use of the less than first-class travel requirement would be helpful in determining whether it would be worth-while to require further modifications in the regulations.

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d. The Deputy Director (Support) indicated that at the [redacted] station a substantial amount of gold is held, and he questioned the need for such a large amount at the station. The Chief, Finance Division indicated that action is being taken world-wide to reduce the amount of gold held at field stations to the minimum currently required.

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Checked with the [redacted] Sup. + he states all precautions possible are being taken. FE [redacted] corresponded with field. Suff to counter-inland. Base further

The Deputy Director (Support) also commented on a safekeeping problem at one location in [redacted] where approximately $150,000 is held in a combination lock safe without any other protection than [redacted] guards. The question for [redacted] determination here is what further safeguards can be established to assure the safety of the cash held at the location.

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The Deputy Director (Support) alluded to an indebtedness due the Agency from [redacted] who is a retired Army officer, and recommended [redacted] might be feasible to obtain an allotment of [redacted] pension to apply against the amount due from him. The Chief, Finance Division indicated that this matter has been the subject of some discussion with the DDCI and that there may be good reasons to justify not requiring such an allotment of [redacted] pension.

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[redacted]

Chief, Technical Accounting Staff

DISTRIBUTION:
0 & 1 - TAS Subject
1 - Comptroller
1 - Chief, Finance Division
1 - [redacted]
1 - [redacted]
2 - [redacted]

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[redacted]/sja (12 April 1963)

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